

Message Text

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72-61

ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7234

INFO DEA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 1770

E.O. 1M 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR CO

SUBJECT: DEA SPACE AND ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL

CARACAS FOR DEA

1. THE DEA DECISION NOT TO MOVE ITS OFFICES TO THE SPACE IN THE BAVARIA BUILDING, WHICH I HAVE NOW ACCEPTED, CHANGED THE GROUND RULES UNDER WHICH I HAD PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO AN EXPANSION IN DEA PERSONNEL. THE PRESENT QUARTERS CAN PHYSICALLY SIMPLY NOT ACCOMMODATE ALL THE PERSONNEL EXPANSION PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED.

2. RDD BACHRACH AND I HAVE AGREED TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF ONE ADDITIONAL AGENT, WHO I UNDERSTAND WILL BE MR JOHN MCFARLAND AND A LOCAL HIRE AMERICAN SECRETARY, AND WHO CAN BE ACCOMMODATED IN VERY CRAMPED QUARTERS WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS OF EXISTING SPACE. BEYOND THAT NO ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL CAN BE ACCOMMODATED OR WILL BE APPROVED. THIS MEANS ESSENTIALLY THAT I DO NOT APPROVE THE ASSIGNMENT OF MR THOMAS BRIGGS AS INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS AGENT AS HAD BEEN PROPOSED IN DEA COMMUNICATION TO CARACAS REGIONAL OFFICE (CON-IGI-74-0348-2). MR BACHRACH ACCEPTS THIS. HE HAS INDICATED HE MAY PROPOSE ACCEPTANCE OF AN INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS AGENT AT A LATER DATE. I HAVE TOLD HIM THAT I WOULD CONSIDER
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ANY NEW PROPOSAL ON ITS MERITS AT THAT TIME IN THE

LIGHT OF CIRCUMSTANCES THEN EXISTING.

3. IN CONNECTION WITH THIS SLOT THE RECORD SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT WHAT I HAD ORIGINALLY APPROVED WAS THE ASSIGNMENT OF AN INTELLIGENCE ANALYST, WHICH IS WHAT THE RECORD WILL SHOW WAS PROPOSED TO ME. THE FIRST INDICATION I HAD THAT WHAT WAS INTENDED WAS OPERATIONAL PERSONNEL WAS CONTAINED IN THE AFOREMENTIONED DEA COMMUNICATION. THIS WAS THEREFORE A NEW PROPOSAL AS FAR AS I WAS CONCERNED. I HAD NEVER OFFICIALLY RESPONDED TO THAT PROPOSAL. THEREFORE THE GOC WAS NEVER BROACHED AND HAS ITSELF NEVER APPROVED THE ADDITION TO THE MISSION STAFF OF AN INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS AGENT.

VAKY

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